



At Your Leisure

October 2008

Resident of the Month

Margaret Escobar is truly a living piece of Arizona history. Her family roots reach deep into the soil of our precious deserts, dating back to before our land was declared a state. Margaret Harris was born in Phoenix on February 28, 1918. Phoenix was just a small town back then. Neighboring Tucson was the largest city. Margaret was born the oldest of four. She had two brothers and one sister, and surviving them all. One brother died at the age of 5, her sister died at 19, and her brother George died just 5yrs. ago. They were quite close.



Margaret's dad was a candy maker from Kansas City, Missouri. She remembers him fondly, though he passed away when she was only 15 years. Her mom, Carmen Jerez, was born in Tucson in 1889. She is considered to be an Arizona Pioneer! She attended the Arizona Pioneers Association Annual Meeting each year until the year before her death, when she was too ill to go. Carmen's parents (Margaret's grandparents) were Manuela from Mexico and Francisco from Spain. They came to America to make Tucson their home. The son of Margaret's brother George discovered that there are records at St. Augustine Cathedral in Tucson of the marriage of Manuela and Francisco, the baptism of each of their 12 (!) children, and of their move to Phoenix.

Margaret met her husband Ray when he was working as chef at a popular restaurant on Van Buren Street, "Mexico Café". Back then, Van Buren was Phoenix's own Vegas strip, with the most popular hotels, restaurants, and nightclubs. Margaret accompanied her cousin and her boyfriend to the restaurant where they introduced her to their friend "Ray" and the rest was history. Margaret Harris and Ray Escobar were married in 1943 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, just east of 7th St. on Washington St. The church is still a thriving parish. In the Hispanic culture during that time, it was customary for the husband to take the wife's maiden name as his middle name, so Ray Sr. was known as Ray Calderon Escobar (on Ray Jr.'s birth certificate it states the same). His father had taken the maiden name of his mother.

Ray left to join the war (World War II). He gratefully survived the bloody Battle of the Bulge. Ray worked for many years in the copper mines of Arizona. He died in the mine. Margaret and Ray worked hard to provide a good home for their three children: Ray Jr., Rosalinda, and Eddie. Margaret would take retail and babysitting jobs while making sure the bills were paid on time, meals were on the table, and the laundry was done. They did laundry by hand (!) until a Laundromat opened four blocks away. Her faith was always important to her. She made sure the family was in church each Sunday, and the children completed their studies and received their First Communion. She was a caring, attentive, and committed mother and wife. Her son, Ray Jr. visits her daily. Margaret Escobar, the Arizona State Veteran Home congratulates you on being the Resident of the Month for October 2008!!!



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Candy Covarrubiaz

Editor



Law Changes



Retirees now Salute Flag

Retired Soldiers are still proud! Still Serving! Congress has put Still Saluting into law for Retired Soldiers and other veterans. The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 110-181) changed Sect. 9, Title 4, U.S. Code, which covers "Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag." Following is that section of the U.S. Code, as reworded by the law change.

"During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present in uniform should render the military salute.



Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes."

Volunteer Information

We will be having a volunteer orientation on Saturday November 15th at 10am at the Arizona State Veteran Home. If you are interested in any program please call Leslie Goin at 602-248-1575

Volunteer Programs:

Caring Companions: Visit with assigned Veterans weekly. Usually assigned to 2 to 4 residents. You become very close to these Veterans and provide support to them.

Visit A Vet: These volunteers are not assigned to anyone in particular. Instead of being assigned to particular Veterans, you are assigned a shift to come in and visit with anyone who is around. You go from unit to unit talking to the Veterans. Some volunteers have a set group they visit every week. After being here a while, you may find a group you enjoy seeing.

Pet Visitations: After meeting the requirements from your Veterinarian, you sign up for a shift to come in with your animal to visit the Veterans.

Recreation Volunteers: Assist with outings and recreation groups. You are assigned a specific activity.

Gift Shop Clerks: You will be assigned a set schedule to work in the gift shop.

Spiritual Care Volunteers: Assist with various spiritual groups or 1:1 visits to pray with residents.

Reiki Volunteers: Volunteers receive training in Reiki from ASVH. In exchange, volunteers offer 20 hours of volunteer Reiki services for each level of training they receive. Volunteers may become trained in Usui and Mahatma Reiki Level 1, 2, 3 and Master/Teacher.

Candy Strippers: Volunteers help fill ice and water pitchers, serve meal trays and escort residents to physician's appointments at the near by Veterans Administration Medical Center.



Military Family Relief Fund

Military Family Relief Fund Provides New Hope to Arizona Families

Arizonans seeking to support our troops can now do more than display a bumper sticker! The Arizona Military Family Relief Fund provides funds to families whose loved one has been seriously injured or killed while fighting the Global War on Terror. The Fund is administered by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, so donors are assured that the money goes to Arizona military families in need. By law, no more than 5% of all donations can be used for administrative costs. It also provides taxpayers with an avenue for charitable giving that actually gives the contributor a tax incentive.

"Everybody always asks what they can do to help, and this is a great opportunity to make a real difference," says ADVS Director Col. Joey Strickland. "We've already begun helping families, two of whom were facing homelessness while dealing with combat-related injuries."



Arizona taxpayers seeking to give back to those who have answered the call of duty can also receive a tax credit. Donors are essentially telling the State how to spend a portion of their tax dollars when they give to the Military Family Relief Fund (up to \$200 for a single tax filer and up to \$400 for a couple filing jointly).

Military Family Relief Fund recipients can use the support in a variety of ways. From mothers facing financial calamity after their loved one has been killed, to parents purchasing overseas plane tickets to be by their injured son or daughter's side in the hospital - the fund will be there when people need it most.

For more information visit www.azmfrf.gov or call

Diane D'Angelo
Outreach Coordinator
AZ Dept. of Veterans' Services
602-234-8421

Save A Tree!



If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail instead of by regular mail, Please let us know. We appreciate everyone's efforts to try and help our environment.

Candy Covarrubiaz
602-351-6879
ccovarrubiaz@azdvs.gov

Volunteer Spotlight

The Visit-A-Vet program is a volunteer service that provided over 100 hours of casual visits to our Veterans last month. It involves a core group of 19 volunteers that stop by to say hello. This program has become the catch all program for volunteers who like to talk and visit on a casual basis with a lot of veterans or for volunteers that have a full schedule and can only come one time a month to visit with an assigned veteran. The one thing all of these Volunteers have in common is that they are committed to making a difference in the lives of

our Veterans by talking and visiting with them. Everyone here at the home appreciates their visits. A special thank you goes out to our Visit-A-Vet Volunteers from August: Sondra Angelton, Ester Arney, John Anderson, Steve Coger, Amber Day, Danny Engler, Jessica Mullen, Tony Miglionico, Terri Mora, Jennifer Murray, Anita Pederson, Frank Smith, Dan Straight, Josh Strickland, Sara Skalniak, Heather and Matt Wright and Teresa

Wright and Family. (please note, that some of these volunteers have become Caring Companions, but did provide hours in August in the Visit-A-Vet program).



Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ON VETERANS DAY, TUESDAY NOV. 11th

Please call Leslie Goin, 602-248-1575 to register for any of these activities

- *Escort residents to the Veteran's Day Parade - 9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
- *A team of people to barbecue hot dogs and hamburgers - 11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
- *Waiters and Waitresses at the barbecue: 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29TH FOR THE STATE FAIR OUTING - 12 NOON - 6:00 P.M.

Leslie Goin, MS, CTRS

Manager of Therapeutic Programs

Arizona State Veteran Home

4141 N. 3rd Street

Phoenix, AZ 85012

602-248-1575

Taps

The Arizona State Veteran Home extends its deepest condolences to the loved ones of the following residents who recently passed on. Their contributions to our Country will never be forgotten. Their smiles, strength and fortitude will live within us as precious memories. God Bless.

Mary McFadden

Ernest Hairston



Thank You to all our Wonderful Volunteers



Special Thanks to the Volunteers who have visited this past month:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| *Hannah Adelman | *Carroll Clarence | *Gretchen Helwig |
| *Phil Adelman | *Carmolette Cluff | *Susan Hulton |
| *Maha Al Duhi | *Lucy Costner | *Maureen Hawkins |
| *Sondra Angelton | *Chris Dion | *William Herndon |
| Chances Abson | *Ann Dion | *John Hemingway |
| *Ester Arney | *Becca DeBusk | *Barbara Howard |
| *John Anderson | *Alexandra Digging | *Carol Hughes |
| *Cory Baker | *Amber Day | *Juarbe Family |
| *Margaret Balon | *Arnold Eggers | *Butch Kohs |
| *Joyce Beaty | *Pat Eggers | *Rita Zachman |
| *Shannon Benvenuto | *Diane Elliot | *John Kriener |
| *Laura Blank | *Danny Engler | *Ben Koval |
| *"Butch" Bonnee | *Marie Elizabeth-Finamore | *Deena Lager |
| *Norma Butler | *Lori Floyd | *Leon Littleton |
| *Michael Bryant | *Jared Floyd | *Anthony Lydon |
| *Henry Brown | *Irma Fuchs | *Richard Lopez |
| *Phil Buggy | *Jerry Fuchs | *Charlie Franks' The Ultimate Elvis Experience |
| *Clarice Buggy | *Gustavo Fernandez | *Arizona Army National Guard |
| *Michael Carbajal | *Gabe Forsberg | *Cooties – VFW Post 9400 |
| *Mona Constance | *Francisca Gallardo | *Hospice of the Valley |
| *Steven Coger | *Susie Goens | Jewish War Veterans |
| *Keith Collier | *Tom Gardner | Korean War Veterans Association |
| *Dick Collins | *Josh Strickland | *Knights of Columbus |
| *Sue Cornwell | *Eileen Szychonski | *Legion of Mary |
| *Cole Malham | *Phil Simpson | Orchid Society of Arizona |
| *Tony Miglionico | *Frank Smith | *Phoenix Art Museum |
| *Terri Mora | *Dan Straight | *Salvation Army |
| *Robin Morris | *Sara Skalniak | *SAMS – Scottish American Military Society Post 48 |
| *Jennifer Murray | *Rufus Short | *Sun City Elks |
| *Tom Minichiello | *Michael Snell | *Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Arizona |
| *Cruz Marquez | *Rob Taylor | *Ashley Monzon |
| *Doris McCrossin | *Sherry Taylor | *Donna Lindquist |
| *Jeannie McClane | *Torigan Family | *Delores Kohs |
| *Cheryl Nichta | *Kathy Tousek | *Joe Kosikowski |
| *Roy Olson | *Turney Tuggle | |
| *Mick Olson | *DJ Vithoven | |
| *Bill Patterson | *Julie Vithoven | |
| *Anita Pederson | *Judie Walter | |
| *Colin Quigley | *Loretta Wiltse | |
| *Heather Rick | *Rima Woo | |
| *Tim Serey | *Tereasa Wright and family | |
| *Joe Shaughnessy | *Barry Woods | |
| *American Legion Post 91 | *Heather Wright | |
| *American Legion Post 91 | *Matthew Wright | |
| *American Legion Post 44 | *Linda Zvara | |
| *Dick Moore | *Mary Milburn | |
| | *Don Milburn | |
| | *Jessica Mullen | |

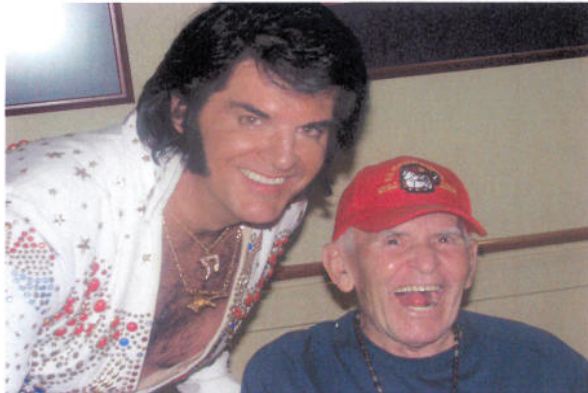
If your name is not on this list, please contact Leslie Goin with Volunteer Services to get registered today!



Highlights from the Therapeutic Programs



The American Legion Post 35 made arrangements for Charlie Franks to present his casino quality show, "The Ultimate Elvis Experience" on Labor Day. Charlie had performed in Reno 3 days prior, which meant his stage crew had to tear down the show, drive back to Phoenix and set up the stage & lights in Phoenix with very little time for sleep. They all worked so hard to put on a spectacular show.



The Arizona Army National Guard sponsored a Casino Night for the residents. Thanks to the Guard, our Veterans were able to play poker, black jack, roulette, craps and the slot machines without having to leave the home. Unit D2 had the lucky top 3 winners. Congratulations to the night's biggest winners: Prentice Bread, Jack McKenzie and Stewart Mathews

Therapeutic Programs Department is excited about our two new vans. The residents have come up with a lot of ideas for outings including numerous trips to restaurants, shopping, the State Fair, bowling, the NASCAR races, scenic van rides, Bingo at Apache Junction's American Legion Hall, dinner at Sun City Elks, American Legion Post 29, 44, 105 and VFW Post 9400 and to name just a few.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY: Therapeutic Programs will be sponsoring the annual pumpkin decorating and costume contest at 2:00 PM on Oct. 31st. This year the group costume contest will require each group to have a minimum of 25% resident participation. That means that if your department enters the costume contest, please involve one resident for every four staff members. The winning team will receive a free pizza party! Call 602-248-1575 to reserve a pumpkin for the decorating contest. All pumpkins need to involve at least one resident and entries are due by 12:00 noon October 31st.



Donations

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO MADE DONATIONS TO OUR HOME LAST MONTH:

Kellis – Draper American Legion Auxiliary Unit #12
Ernest A. Love American Legion Auxiliary Unit # 6
Mike Selk
Bill Reed – Purple Hearts #691
United States War Veterans PTSD Foundation
Charlie Franks – The Ultimate Elvis Experience
American Legion Post 35
Margaret Warner Wood Tent #1 AZ: Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Orchid Society of Arizona
Sun City Elks



Admissions Department



The admissions departments' main focus is to help families place their loved ones in a safe and friendly environment surrounded by fellow veterans and their spouses. A special camaraderie exists between those who have served our country and the spouses that have supported them and our home provides not only that camaraderie but also programs that are veteran focused.



The admissions department is headed by Eric Coleman. Eric will provide the initial guidance and directions to the Veteran as to the details of becoming a resident of the Arizona State Veterans Home.

If you are a Veteran or know someone who is and would like information as to how you can become a resident of the Arizona State Veterans Home, please contact Eric at 602-248-1550 extension 2746.

Resident Birthdays



Richard P Jones	10/01/1931	76
Edward J Herman	10/03/1936	71
David R Quick	10/08/1916	91
Robert A Kemp	10/08/1925	82
Irene J McLaughlin	10/30/1916	91



Robert K Jacobs	10/13/1925	82
Hubbard F Fellows	10/14/1924	83
Ecleaster Black	10/22/1911	96
Billy H Smith	10/27/1936	71

Wish List

Musical DVDS from the 40's & 50's and Classical Music

Movie DVDS (Westerns, Don Knotts, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley, etc)

A fast food lunch: choose the number of resident(s) you wish to sponsor at \$5.00 per meal. Though the food we serve here is delicious, every now and then our Veterans want to eat fast food.

RF Converter Cords \$20.00 per cord (choose the number you wish to purchase, we need 150 cords for residents to watch DVD's in their rooms)

Keg of Non-Alcoholic Beer for Oktoberfest 10-18-08

Sports Equipment Package - \$200.00(large exercise balls, target games)

Belly Dance Troupe Performance: \$300.00 per performance

Portable Piano: \$700.00





















Satellite Radios and monthly sponsorship for services

Thank You to the following organizations that sponsored our requests from last month's wish list: American Legion Auxiliary for sponsoring our Photography Program and the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War for sponsoring 10 Fast Food Meals.





October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
This is a list of Special Events. Be sure to check each units calendar for a full listing of Recreational and Music Therapy Groups.						
			1 C1 Sight Seeing Outing 10 a.m. 	2 Canteen/ Park Outings 10 am	3 Fish Fry Outing American Legion Post 44 4pm	4 Happy Hour 2pm
5 Ice Cream Social 2pm 	6 Sun City Elks Bingo 2pm 	7 Food Committee Meeting 2pm Wal-Mart Shopping Outing 9am	8 Fish Fry Outing American Legion Post #1 	9 Poker Night 6pm 	10 Fish Fry Outing to American Legion Post #29 4pm Concert D1 Todd 11:20am Concert D2 Mary 11:40am	11 Music Off Broad- way Theater Show 2pm 
12 Ice Cream Social 2pm 	13 American Legion Post #44 Sing-A- Long 10:00am Elks Bingo 2pm 	14 Kentucky Fried Chicken Bring In 	15 C1 Sight Seeing Outing 10am 	16 Bill Johnson's Big Apple Breakfast Outing Birthday Party 2pm 	17 Concert D2 11am Concert C1 11:50am Fish Fry Outing to VFW Post #9400	18 KWVA (Korean War Veterans Association) Sponsored October Fest with Krugunk- raut Band 10:30am
19 Ice Cream Social 2pm 	20 Leon Littleton in Concert 2pm Late Night Bingo with the Am Legion 	21 Apache Junction American Legion Post 27 Outing	22 C1 Sight Seeing Outing 10am 	23 Canteen / Park Outing 10am	24 Concert Hired Hams C2 at 11:00am 	25 American Legion Auxiliary Units 6 and 12 Sponsored Photog- raphy Class; VFW Annual Healthcare Work- ers/Volunteers Recognition Ban- quet at Buckeys Casino
26 Retired Enlisted Association Chapter 34 Sponsored Ice Cream Social 2pm, Entertainment by the Hallelujah Band 	27 Phoenix Art Museum Travel Show 10am, Elks Bingo 2pm 	28 Bowling Outing 2pm 	29 C1 Sight Seeing Outing 10am State Fair Outing 1pm 	30 Canteen / park Outing 10am	31 Halloween Party on the Honeywell Patio 2pm 	

We Will Miss You



Mike Landry will be leaving the agency on October 3rd to take over as the Administrator of the Engineering and Facilities bureau at The Arizona Department of Corrections.

Mike was originally hired to supervise the Engineering Department at the State Veterans' Home and acquire property as part of the Military Installation Fund Program. Mike was assigned additional duties soon after his November 20th, 2006 hire date which included managing the process of locating and leasing offices statewide for Veterans' Benefit Counselors, management of the housekeeping and dietary departments at the State Veterans' Home and planning the development of the Northern Arizona Veterans' Cemetery.

In March of 2007 Mr. Landry was promoted to Assistant Deputy Director of Operations for the agency with his primary responsibility the crisis management of the State Veterans' Home. Thru Mike's leadership the home was able to overcome the findings of Immediate Jeopardy and 23 deficiencies in the March 2007 DHS survey and was found to be "Deficiency Free" in June of 2007.

In his tenure Mike has also supervised several departments for the agency including Risk Management, Human Resources, Procurement, the gift shop as well as managing the VA Grant Program and the Agency Capitol Improvement Plan. Mike made a huge, daily positive impact in the lives of both the residents of the home and the staff of the agency and was never too busy to just stop and visit with anyone at anytime even though he usually worked 7 days a week to "Get it Done".

We wish Mike well in his new position; his dynamic leadership and "what ever it takes" attitude will be missed by all.

Welcome To Our Team

Robert Barnes	ADVS Deputy Director
Vicki Jonas	Accounting Tech 111
John Dompierre	Dietary Manager
Jacqueline Nischan	Assistant Director Of Nursing

Employee Association

On October 3rd we will have an Employee Association Cookout. It is going to be from 11:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.. There will be hot dogs or hamburgers, potato chips, and a cold soda all for just \$3.50.

Join us and get to know your co-workers.



Arizona State Veteran Home

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Phoenix, AZ 85012
Phone: 602-248-1550
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